

**For Immediate Release:** February 1, 2012

**Washington, D.C.** — In a letter to the President today, Representative Duncan Hunter, a member of the House Armed Services Committee and veteran of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, expressed opposition to transferring legal custody of several prisoners from the prison facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Reports indicate the Obama Administration is considering transferring custody of detainees to encourage negotiations with the Taliban.

“The Taliban cannot be trusted,” said Representative Hunter. “Releasing prisoners under the notion that it will somehow motivate the Taliban to negotiate in good-faith is a bad move. Winning in Afghanistan is still in the national interest and we must not provide the Taliban with any advantage that could compromise the Afghan mission or put America’s military or intelligence community at risk.”

[Click here](#) to read Representative Hunter’s letter.